WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A microorganism strain *YS-44442* of *Saccharothrix* and the mutant thereof.

2. A microorganism strain *YS-45494* of *Saccharothrix* and the mutant thereof.

3. A process for producing pravastatin using the microorganism of Claim 1 or 2.

4. The process of Claim 3, comprising the steps of (a) cultivating the microorganism of Claim 1 or 2 at a suitable condition to generate a fermentation broth; (b) feeding compactin into the broth; (c) fermenting the broth for a period of time to convert the compactin to pravastatin; and (d) isolating the pravastatin from the broth.

5. The process of Claim 4, wherein the fermentation broth of Step (a) is cultivated for less than 2 days.

6. The process of Claim 5, wherein the fermentation broth of Step (a) is cultivated for about 18 hours.

7. The process of Claim 4, wherein the fermentation broth of Step (a) is derived from a seed culture of the microorganism which is cultivated at a suitable condition for about 18 to about 48 hrs before inoculation into the broth.

8. The process of Claim 4, wherein the compactin of Step (b) is fed into the broth at a final concentration of higher than 1.0 g/L.

9. The process of Claim 8, wherein the final concentration is about 1.5 to about 2.0 g/L.

10. The process of Claim 4, wherein the period of time of Step (c) to convert the compactin to the pravastatin is less than 5 days.

11. The process of Claim 10, wherein the period of time is less than 3 days.

12. The process of Claim 11, wherein the period of time is less than 24 hours.

13. A process of isolating pravastatin, comprising the steps of (1) adding an ammonium sulfate into a first solution containing the(HMG)-CoA reductase inhibitor to produce a precipitation; (2) isolating the precipitation; (3) dissolving the precipitation with a polar solvent to produce a second solution; (4) adjusting the pH of the second solution to about pH 4 to about PH 6; and (5) extracting the second solution with an water immiscible solvent to isolate the (HMG)-CoA reductase inhibitor.

14. The process of Claim 13, wherein the (HMG)-CoA reductase inhibitor is selected from pravastatin, compactin and lovastatin.

15. The process of Claim 14, wherein the (HMG)-CoA reductase inhibitor is pravastatin.

16. The process of Claim 13, wherein the first solution of Step (1) is a microbial fermentation broth.

17. The process of Claim 16, wherein the microbial fermentation broth is derived from a microorganism capable of producing

the(HMG)-CoA reductase inhibitor, said microorganism is selected form *Streptomyces roseochrornogenus*, *Actinomadura*, *Aspergillus*, *Monascus*, *Penicillium*, *Paecilomyces*, *Hypomyces*, *Phoma*, *Pleurotus*, *Doratmyces*, *Eupenicillium*, *Gymnoaxus*, *Trichoderma*, *YS-44442* of Claim 1, *YS-45494* of Claim 2, and the mutants thereof.

18. The process of Claim 13, wherein the ammonium sulfate of Step (1) is added into the first solution in an amount of 30 to 60 % (w/v) of the first solution.

19. The process of Claim 18, wherein the ammonium sulfate is added to be saturated in the first solution.

20. The process of Claim 13, wherein the water immiscible solvent of Step (5) is an organic solvent.

21. The process of Claim 20, wherein the organic solvent is selected from ethyl acetate, acetone, toluene, dicholoromethane and isopropyl acetate.

22. The process of Claim 21, wherein the organic solvent is ethyl acetate.

23. The process of Claim 13, further comprising a step of reacting the isolated (HMG)-CoA reductase inhibitor with an organic or inorganic cation source to generate a salt form of the inhibitor.

24. The process of Claim 23, wherein the cation source is a sodium source.

25. The process of Claim 24, wherein the sodium source is

selected form NaOH, Na_2CO_3, sodium acetate (anhydrous) and sodium-2-ethyl hexanoate.